

## Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 EB-07

AID-05 XMB-02 /066 W

----- 059302

R 121000Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4027

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 123

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ECON,CE

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER INAUGURATES MAHEVELI PROJECT

1. WITH ELABORATE BUDDHIST CEREMONIES, CONCH SHELLS SOUNDING AND JASMINE PETALS FLOATING DOWN FROM AMERICAN-GIFTED HELICOPTERS, PRIME MINISTER BANDARANAIKE JANUARY 8 INAUGURATED NEAR CENTRAL CITY OF KANDY STATE I OF WORLD BANK-AIDED MAHVELI DEVELOPMENT PROJECT. FIRST STAGE CONSISTS OF DAM AND TUNNEL THROUGH MOUNTAIN WHICH WILL DIVERT WATER FROM SRI LANKA'S LONGEST RIVER NORTHWARD TO THE PARCHED NORTH CENTRAL DRY ZONE, AND HYDROELECTRIC POWER STATION AT END OF TUNNEL. ONLY DAM AND TUNNEL COMPLETED WHILE OPERATION OF POWER COMPLEX AT UKUWELA EXPECTED IN EARLY 1976.

2. UNITED FRONT GOVERNMENT HAS TRIED TO MADE GREATEST POLITICAL CAPITAL FROM OPENING, GIVING EXTREME PUBLICITY AND CLAIMING RESPONSIBILITY FOR PUSHING THROUGH ARRANGEMENTS FOR THIS MASSIVE (BY CEYLONSE STANDARDS) UNDERTAKING. NOT SURPRISINGLY, OPPOSITION NITED NATIONAL PARTY, ALSO CLAIMS PARENTAGE. GRATIFYING IS MENTION THAT DEFINITE PLANS FOR PROJECT WERE FIRST DRAWN IN 1957-58 BY UNITED STATES OPERATIONS MISSION CONTAINED IN OFFICIAL OPENING PROGRAM, OPENING SPEECHES NEWSPAPER EDITORIALS AND NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS PARTAINING TO CEREMONY.

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PERKINS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CONSTRUCTION, COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATIONS, DAMS, TUNNELS, HYDROELECTRIC POWER PLANTS, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976COLOMB00123  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760010-0743  
**From:** COLOMBO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760167/aaaachjj.tel  
**Line Count:** 61  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 JUN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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EO Systematic Review  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRIME MINISTER INAUGURATES MAHEVELI PROJECT  
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